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Work and Workers.

COLUMBIA COLLEGE, in coöperation with the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City, has arranged a series of lectures by several eminent scholars, to which the public are invited without expense. The first course of lectures, which was given in December, was by William Hayes Ward, D.D., upon the subject of *Oriental Seals and Glyptic Art*. The treatment was in four parts, Origin in Primitive Babylonia, Mythological Art of the Early and Middle Empire of Babylonia, Transfer of the Art to Assyria, Derivative Art of Persia, Syria, Asia Minor and Phœnicia. Many fine illustrations added to the interest and benefit of the lectures.

DURING this year *The Expositor*, England's ablest biblical magazine, will contain several series of expository and critical papers, some of which are upon the following subjects: The Connection between the Third Gospel and the Epistle to the Hebrews, by Rev. W. Alexander, D.D.; The Sayings of Christ Unrecorded in the Gospels, by Rev. Walter Lock, M.A.; The Premier Ideas of Jesus, by Rev. Jno. Watson, M.A.; The Bible and Science, by Sir J. W. Dawson, C.M.G., F.R.S.; Six Expository Papers by Professor Marcus Dods, D.D.; The New Testament Teaching as to the Second Coming of Christ, by Professor A. J. Beet, D.D.; St. Paul's Conception of Christianity, (completing the series of 1893), by Professor A. B. Bruce, D.D.

SILVER, BURDETT & CO., of Boston, have just issued a handsome pamphlet of fifty-four pages entitled, "In Memory of Oakman Sprague Stearns, D.D." It contains a portrait of Dr. Stearns; an address of President Alvah Hovey, in which he gives an admirable analysis of the character of his late colleague, who had been professor of Old Testament Interpretation in Newton Theological Institution for twenty-five years; also a series of tributes by various societies of which he had been a member, by the alumni, by the trustees; also the last sermon written by Dr. Stearns and preached on the day of prayer for colleges, January 31, 1884; it closes with a two-page list of his literary contributions, in the way of articles to various journals, and small hand-books. Born October 20, 1817, at Bath, Me., he passed a most useful career, laying down his work April 20, 1893.

THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF CHURCH HISTORY, whose annual meeting was held in New York City, December 27-28, devoted its first session to a memorial of the late Dr. Philip Schaff, who was the founder of the Society six years ago, and its President from the time of the organization until his death, October 20, 1893. A number of prominent scholars presented the

work of Dr. Schaff in his many-sided activities. Professor Geo. P. Fisher spoke of him as a Church Historian, Dr. T. W. Chambers spoke of him as a Bible Student and Reviser, Bishop J. F. Hurst spoke of him as uniting Teutonic and Anglo-Saxon Scholarship; others discussed the relation of his work to the Alliance of the Reformed Churches, to the Lutheran Church, to the Episcopal Church, and to the Roman Catholic Church. Reminiscences of the great and revered scholar were given, and tributes of appreciation and love for the departed leader were offered.

ONE of the main themes of discussion at the Summer Meeting of the American Institute of Christian Philosophy, last July, was: Has the Biblical Doctrine of Inspiration been Invalidated? Two of the papers read upon that occasion, together with some of the general discussion, are reproduced in the December number of *Christian Thought*, the organ of the Institute and, until his recent decease, under the editorial charge of Dr. Chas. F. Deems, who was also the founder and president of that society. The first paper is by Professor B. B. Warfield, D.D., LL.D., of Princeton Theological Seminary; and ably presents the extreme conservative view of inspiration, claiming that it has in no way been invalidated, and cannot possibly. The second paper is an inductive study of Inspiration in the Old Testament, by Professor H. G. Mitchell, D.D., of Boston University, and presents a more moderate view of biblical inspiration. Both articles are of value in the consideration of the problem they deal with.

THE LATEST Encyclical of Pope Leo XIII., dated November 18, from Rome, is entitled, *On the Study of the Holy Scripture*. He therein strongly recommends the earnest study of the sacred Scriptures to clergymen and students, and that in the Oriental languages in which they were originally written, with a view to the better understanding of the text of the Scriptures, that the objections of adversaries to the Scriptures may be adequately met. He particularly exhorts the priesthood of the Roman Catholic Church, its patriarchs, primates, archbishops and bishops (to whom the Encyclical is addressed) to study the Bible, referring to Paul's words in 2 Tim. 3:16, 17, "Every Scripture inspired of God is also profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for instruction which is in righteousness; that the man of God may be complete, furnished completely unto every good work." The preachers of the whole Roman Catholic Church are warned against preferring to use their own rather than God's word and wisdom, and the abuse and lack of biblical study and research are condemned. The Pope contends that the Roman Catholic Church, at all times and by the best laws and institutions, has taken care never to leave the heavenly treasures, which the Holy Spirit has so liberally given to man, either neglected or concealed.

WITH the November-December issue the *Andover Review* announced that it would suspend publication. The withdrawal from the staff of Pro-

fessor W. J. Tucker, who was called to the Presidency of Dartmouth College, left more work upon the remaining editors; and the enlarged curriculum of Andover Seminary added greatly to the duties of the professors, until it has seemed to them no longer wise to combine both these arduous and responsible lines of activity. The endeavor of a year ago to meet the circumstances by issuing the magazine bi-monthly instead of monthly did not bring the required relief to the editors, and therefore they have now entirely withdrawn their publication. As is generally known, the *Andover Review* was started ten years ago, with the Andover Professors E. C. Smyth, W. J. Tucker, J. W. Churchill, Geo. Harris and E. Y. Hincks as editors, assisted by their colleagues in the Faculty of the Seminary. The career of the magazine has been an altogether noble and useful one. It has been engaged in earnest, sometimes bitter, theological controversy during the greater portion of its ten years, but has stood with firmness, dignity and wisdom for freshness and breadth of Christian thought, and liberty of Christian opinion. The *Review* has contributed largely to the advancement of Christian knowledge, the freedom of individual thought, and the progress of the kingdom of God. It can only be with regret, in which all the readers join, that the work so well done should be so soon broken off. Two valuable books remain to us from the editorial pages of the magazine, the work entitled *Progressive Orthodoxy*, and the quite recent book upon *The Divinity of Jesus Christ*.

PROFESSOR J. H. THAYER, in an address to the Harvard Divinity School a few months ago, gave expression to his ripe experience and good judgment regarding Books and Their Use—theological books, of course. In general, he said, the books out of which other books are made are the best books to own, that is, the recognized authorities on the main professional topics, and especially the best encyclopedias and works of reference. A good encyclopedia is a small library in itself, a library written for the most part by specialists, and by its copious bibliographical references putting one on the track of the principal works relating to any subject which he may wish to study more in detail. Such are the *Smith Dictionary of the Bible*, *Smith-Cheetham Dictionary of Christian Antiquities*, *Smith-Wace Dictionary of Christian Biography*, besides also the *Encyclopedia Britannica* (9th ed.), which is of great value in its treatment of biblical topics. Invest but sparingly in denominational works. The so-called “popular” works are serviceable in their way and place, but they are not substantial enough for the professional student. Shun encyclopedic commentaries, especially those which are loaded down with homiletical material. Be cautious of books which assume to give solutions of pending biblical problems. Any one who has had occasion to watch the changing fashions of criticism can call to mind one person and another who, perhaps in the first jubilant exercise of his thinking faculties upon inherited opinions about the Bible, caught up with avidity the view that happened to be the vogue among the so-called

“advanced” critics, and still clings to it. You meet him years afterwards and you find him still holding that the Tübingen “motley’s the only wear,” a venerable survival of a by-gone style. Purchase the most thorough and scholarly commentaries extant, such as you will not soon outgrow. On the other hand, make acquaintance of as many books as possible, and keep informed as to what new books are appearing in your department that deserve examination or study. Read the writings of acknowledged authorities, and read upon both sides of a subject. “Be not the first by whom the new are tried, nor yet the last to lay the old aside.” Professor Thayer has published this address under the title *Books and Their Use*, and has attached a list of books for students of the New Testament which cites the best literature to be obtained on the many subjects included in a knowledge of the New Testament.